

Message Text

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ACTION SS-25

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S E C R E T SECTION 1 OF 3 NICOSIA 0584

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: XGDS-2
TAGS: PFOR, SY, CY, US
SUBJECT: DAVIES CASE

1. DURING THE NEXT FEW WEEKS WE WILL BE FORWARDING TO DEPT.,
IN A SECTION-BY-SECTION FORMAT, A DETAILED SYNOPSIS OF THE
41-PAGE CYPOL COVERING REPORT ON THE DAVIES INVESTIGATION.
OUR ANALYSIS AND COMMENTS WILL BE INCLUDED AT THE END OF
EACH OF THE EIGHT SECTIONS. FOR EASE OF REFERENCE, OUR
REPORTS WILL USE THE SAME HEADINGS AND PARAGRAPH NUMBERING
AS THE CYPOL REPORT.

BEGIN SECTION ONE

TITLE: COVERING REPORT OF INSPECTOR ANTONIS PETRIDES

DECEASED: ROGER DAVIES
ANTOINETTE VARNAVA

OFFENSES: THE RECOMMENDED OFFENSES RANGED FROM PREMEIDTATED
MURDER FOR KTIMATIAS, LEFTIS, AND SAVVA TO ALICIOUS DAMAGE
FOR LEONIDA. (THE ATTORNEY GENERAL (A/G) SUBSE-
QUENTLY MODIFIED THE PREMEDITATED MURDER CHARGES TO
HOMICIDE. THE ORIGINAL CHARGES ARE SPELLED OUT IN
NICOSIA 352.)

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ACCUSED: IN THE CYPOL REPORT, EIGHT PERSONS WERE
LISTED AS ACCUSED. (SUBSEQUENTLY A/G DECIDED NOT TO
CHARGE NICOS DEMETRIADES AND POSTPONED CHARGES AGAINST
VASILIS PROESTOS, WHO IS IN GREECE.) THE REMAINING
SIX ARE:

IOANNIS THEODOROU KTIMATIAS, EX-ACT. POL. SGT. 2832, AGE 39

NEOPTOLEMOS GEORGHIOU LEFTIS, MECHANIC, AGE 50

LOIZOU SAVVA, P. CONS. 4086, AGE 36

XENOFON GEORGHIOU XENOFONTOS, 2ND LT. NATIONAL GUARD, AGE 33

CHRISTAKIS NICOLA CHARALAMBOUS, DRIVER, AGE 35

CHRISTOS LEONIDA, MESSENGER, AGE 35

INTRODUCTION:

VICTIM NO. 1 - RODGER P. DAVIES, AGE 53, AMERICAN AMBASSADOR
TO CYPRUS

VICTIM NO. 2 - ANTOINETTE VARNAVA, AGE 31, AMERICAN EMBASSY
EMPLOYEE SINCE 1960

(A DESCRIPTION OF AMBASSADOR DAVIES' OFFICE FOLLOWED, WITH
EMPHASIS ON THE WOODEN SHUTTERS, FRENCH DOORS, AND INNER-
OFFICE DOORS.)

FACTS:

1. IN THE FORENOON OF AUGUST 19, 1974 PASYDY (TRADE
UNION OF GOVERNMENT SERVICE PERSONNEL) ORGANIZED A
PEACEFUL DEMONSTRATION TO PROTEST THE STAND OF THE USG
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DURING THE TURKISH INVASION OF CYPRUS.

2. AT ABOUT NOON ON AUGUST 19, APPROXIMATELY 400
DEMONSTRATORS ASSEMBLED AT THE EMBASSY. THE SHOUTED
ANTI-AMERICAN SLOGANS, BROKE THROUGHT THE POLICE CORDON,
BEGAN THROWING A HEAVY VOLUME OF STONES AT THE EMBASSY,
SET FIRE TO EIGHT EMBASSY VEHICLES, BURNED THE AMERICAN
FLAG, AND THEN BURNED AN EFFICY OF DR. KISSINGER.

3. THE MARINES IN THE EMBASSY BEGAN TO THROWN TEAR GAS
GRENADES TO DISPERSE THE CROWD. PERSONNEL WITHIN THE
EMBASSY PUT ON GAS MASKS.

4. THE EMBASSY CALLED FOR REINFORCEMENTS. AT 12:50 HOURS
NATIONAL GUARDSMEN AND THE FIRE BRIGADE RUSHED TO THE
SCENE TO DISPERSE THE RIOTERS AND PUT OUT THE FIRES.
AT THIS TIME SHOTS WERE HEARD.

5. THE STONING BROKE MUCH GLASS. THE AMERICANS

MOVED TO THE INNER HALLWAYS. THE AMBASSADOR MOVED DOWN THE INNER HALLWAY TO ABOUT 62 FEET FROM HIS OFFICE WINDOW NEAR THE STAIRS. MR. EDDIE EDWARDS WAS STANDING THERE. THREE LOCAL EMPLOYEES WERE SEATED ON THE STEPS: STELLA HARILAMBIDOU, ANTOINETTE VARNAVA AND HARRIS EVANGELIDES.

6. AS THE AMBASSADOR TALKED TO EDWARDS, A BURST OF AUTOMATIC WEAPONS FIRE WAS HEARD. THE AMBASSADOR WAS STRUCK AND FELL. EDWARDS RAISED THE AMBASSADOR'S GAS MASK TO HELP THE AMBASSADOR BREATHE MORE EASILY AND SHOUTED FOR HELP. EVANGELIDES AND MISS VARNAVA RUSHED TO HELP. AS MISS VARNAVA KNELT BY THE AMBASSADOR SHE WAS STRUCK AND FELL INTO THE ARMS OF EVANGELIDES. THE AMBASSADOR WAS TAKEN TO THE NEW NICOSIA CLINIC BUT WAS ALREADY DEAD. HE WAS THEN TAKEN TO THE MORTUARY OF THE NICOSIA GENERAL HOSPITAL. THE BODY OF MISS VARNAVA WAS ALSO TAKEN TO THE MORTUARY.

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7. ON AUGUST 20 DR. P.S. STAVRINOS, V.B. KALBIAN AND WING COMMANDER A.J.C. BALFOUR OF PRICESS MARY HOSPITAL, RAF, AKROTIRI, PERFORMED THE P.M.E. ON THE BODIES OF THE AMBASSADOR AND MISS VARNAVA. MR. J.M. O'BRIEN OF THE EMBASSY IDENTIFIED THE BODIES.

8. ON THE SAME DAY (AUGUST 19) CYPOL COMMANDER MICHALAKIS PANTELIDES AND SUPT. KYRIAKOS SOLOMONIDES (C/CID) VISITED THE EMBASSY. POL SGT. 1543 CHR. NICOLAIDES, A POLICE PHOTOGRAPHER, WAS WITH THEM. THE FOLLOWING EXHIBITS WERE COLLECTED:

- A. ELEVEN EMPTY TEAR GAS GRENADES
- B. FIVE PLASTIC EMPTY TEAR GAS GRENADES
- C. THIRTEEN EXPENDED CARTRIDGE CASES FROM THE YARD OF THE BUILDING UNDER CONSTRUCTION, SITUATED 198 FEET FROM THE SOUTHERN SIDE OF THE EMBASSY.
- D. FIFTY-NINE EXPENDED CARTRIDGE CASES -- SAME YARD BUT EIGHT FEET FROM (C). THESE WERE COLLECTED BY SUPT. SOLOMONIDES AND MAJOR CHRISTOS TSANGARIS, OF THE NATIONAL GUARD.
- E. TWO BULLET PROJECTILES, ONE OF THE FLOOR WHERE THE AMBASSADOR FELL; THE OTHER IN THE WALL ABOVE THE PLACE WHERE THE AMBASSADOR AND MISS VARNAVA FELL.

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9. IT WAS NOTED THE WOODEN SHUTTERS, THE PANEGLOSS FRENCH DOORS, AND THE CURTAINS HAD BEEN CLOSED. THEY WERE ALL PERFORATED BY NINE BULLETS. THERE WERE SIGNS OF SIX BULLETS IN THE WALLS OF THE AMBASSADOR'S OFFICE. THERE WERE SIGNS OF MANY BULLETS ON THE OUTER WALL OF THE EMBASSY. BOTH INNER DOORS OF THE OFFICE HAD BEEN OPEN.

10. INSPECTOR ANDREAS CHRISTOFIDES, FORENSIC SCIENCE LABORATORY, WENT TO THE SCENE ON AUGUST 20. MARK MULVEY, THE EMBASSY SECURITY OFFICER, GAVE HIM TWO DEFORMED PROJECTILES AND TWO METAL FRAGMENTS FOUND IN THE EMBASSY BUILDING. CHRISTOFIDES CONCLUDED THE FATAL SHOTS CAME FROM THE WINDOWS OF THE BUILDING UNDER CONSTRUCTION -- AT LEAST SOME FROM THE SECOND FLOOR.

ON JAN. 25, 1977, A TEST BY THEODOLIGHT ESTABLISHED THAT THE FATAL ROUNDS COULD NOT HAVE BEEN FIRED FROM ANY OTHER PLACE THAN THE WINDOW AREA OF THE SECOND FLOOR OF THE BUILDING UNDER CONSTRUCTION.

ON AUGUST 20, 1974, CHRISTOFIDES INSPECTED THIS BUILDING. ON THE SCAFFOLD OUTSIDE THE SECOND-FLOOR WINDOW HE FOUND AN EXPENDED CARTRIDGE CASE, CALIBRE 7.62M.M.NATO.

11. ALL EXPENDED CARTRIDGES AND THE TWO BULLET PROJECTILES WERE GIVEN TO INSPECTOR CHRISTOFIDES. THE LIST FOLLOWS:

- A. ONE OF TWO DEFORMED PROJECTILES IS 7.62MM NATO, FIRED FROM AN FN AUTOMATIC RIFLE.
- B. THE SECOND IS THE SAME CALIBRE BUT NOT FURTHER IDENTIFIED.

C. TWO METAL FRAGMENTS FROM PART OF A METAL-JACKETED PROJECTILE.

D. TWENTY-FIVE EXPENDED CARTRIDGES, 7.62MM NATO, ALL FROM AN FN AUTOMATIC RIFLE.

E. TWO EXPENDED CARTRIDGES, CALIBRE .303 FROM AN ENFIELD RIFLE.

F. THIRTY-SIX EXPENDED CARTRIDGES, 7.62MM (M.43), DIS-
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CHARGED FROM THREE DIFFERENT FIREARMS:

(1) 25 FROM ONE M.58 AUTOMATIC ASSULT RIFLE

(2) 6 FROM A KALASHNIKOV AUTOMATIC ASSULT RIFLE

(3) 5 FROM ONE M.52/57 SEMI-AUTOMATIC RIFLE.

G. REMAINING FOUR CARTRIDGES FROM 9MM, DISCHARGED FROM AUTOMATIC PISTOL, PROBABLY A BROWNING.

H. ONE BULLET PROJECTILE, CALIBRE 7.62MM NATO FIRED FROM AN FN AUTOMATIC RIFLE.

I. ONE BULLET PROJECTILE, CALIBRE 7.62MM (M.43) FIRED FROM A KALASHNIKOV AUTOMATIC ASSULT RIFLE.

12. ALSO FOUND WERE: (A) TIN BOXES -- EXTERNAL COVERS FOR 11 TEAR GAS GRENADES, TYPE M.7A3 AND (B) FIVE PLASTIC BOXES -- EXTERNAL COVERS OF TEAR GAS GRENADES, TYPE MP120.

13. ON AUGUST 21, 1974 SUPT. K. SOLOMONIDES CAUSED THE ARREST OF: (A) ACT. POL. SGR. KTIMATIAS, (B) XENOFON G. XENOFONTOS, AND (C) VASILLIS CHR. PROESTOS. ALL THREE WERE INTERROGATED. NOTHING WAS SECURED TO SUBSTANTIATE THE SUSPICIONS AGAINST THEM, SO THEY WERE RELEASED THE NEXT DAY.

14. ON AUGUST 25 THE CORONER'S INQUEST CONCLUDED THAT AMBASSADOR DAVIES' DEATH RESULTED FROM A WOUND CAUSED BY A BLIND BULLET, BEING ONE OF MANY FIRED FROM THE BUILDING UNDER CONSTRUCTION SOUTH OF THE EMBASSY BY A PERSON OR PERSONS UNKNOWN. THE VERDICT WAS THAT THE DEATH WAS DUE TO HOMOCIDE BY A PERSON OR PERSONS UNKNOWN.

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15. THE CORONER'S INQUEST REACHED THE SAME CONCLUSIONS
AND VERDICT REGARDING MISS VARNAVA.

16. IN OCTOBER 1974 THE AMERICAN EMBASSY GAVE CYPOL
SOME PHOTOGRAPHS, TAKEN BY UNKNOWN PERSONS, DURING THE
RIOT AND ATTACK ON AUGUST 19, 1974. IN THREE OF THESE,
ACCUSED NO. 1, KTIMATIAS, WAS IDENTIFIED WEARING A MILI-
TARY UNIFORM AND AN ARMY OFFICER'S CAP WITH NATIONAL
GUARD INSIGNIA AND HOLDING A GUN. THE PHOTOGRAPHS
SHOW INSPECTOR IERIDES TRYING TO STOP KTIMATIAS.

17 DURING THE MONTH OF DECEMBER 1975 IT WAS ESTABLISHED
THAT THE ORIGINAL DOCKET-FILE OF THIS CASE WAS LOST OR
STOLEN UNDER CIRCUMSTANCES SO FAR UNKNOWN. UNDER THE
INSTRUCTIONS OF THE CHIEF OF POLICE A NEW INVESTIGATION
WAS COMMENCED AND A NEW DOCKET-FILE CREATED. END SECTION ONE.

2. EMBASSY ANALYSIS AND COMMENT: THE INFORMATION IN
SECTION ONE IS A GENERALLY STRAIGHTFORWARD ACCOUNT OF
WHAT HAPPENED AT THE EMBASSY DURING THE RIOTS OF AUGUST 19,
1974. IT CONTAINS NO SURPRISES OR SIGNIFICANT OMISSIONS.
SOME POINTS NEED CLARIFICATION:

A. THE POLICE REPORT AND THE LOCAL PRESS CONSISTANTLY
USE THE NAMES KTIMATIAS AND LEFTIS AS LEGAL SURNAMES.
UNTIL NOW OUR USAGE HAS FOLLOWED THE EARLIER POLICE
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PRACTICE OF IDENTIFYING THE MEN AS IOANNIS THEODOROU,
AKA KTIMATIAS; AND NEOPTOLEMOS GEORGHIOU, AKA LEFTIS.

B. THE REFERENCE IN PARA 13 TO THE ARREST OF KTIMATIAS,
XENOFONTOS AND PROESTOS ON AUGUST 21, 1974, AND THEIR
EARLY RELEASE BECAUSE OF LACK OF EVIDENCE, IS MISLEADING.
SECTION EIGHT OF THESE REPORTS WILL REFER TO A SWORN
STATEMENT BY SUPT. SOLOMONIDES THAT HE RECEIVED
INFORMATION ON AUGUST 20, 1974 THAT KTIMATIAS, XENO-
FONTOS AND PROESTOS WERE IMPLICATED IN AMBASSADOR
DAVIES' DEATH. HE ORDERED SEARCH WARRANTS AND THEIR
ARRESTS. CHIEF OF POLICE PANTELIDES THEN DIRECTED THAT
KTIMATIAS AND XENOFONTOS NOT BE ARRESTED. PROESTOS

WAS ARRESTED, RETAINED FOR TWO DAYS, THEN RELEASED
BECAUSE OF LACK OF EVIDENCE.

C. PARA 17 INDICATES THAT IN DECEMBER 1975 IT WAS
ESTABLISHED THAT THE ORIGINAL DAVIES FILE HAD BEEN
LOST OR STOLEN. SECTION EIGHT OF THESE REPORTS WILL
INDICATE THE FILE DISAPPEARED BETWEEN FEB. AND SEPT.
1975. END COMMENT.

3. SECTION TWO, TO FOLLOW, WILL REPORT ON THE SEARCHES
OF THE HOUSES OF KTIMATIAS AND LEFTIS AND THE RESULTS
OF THEIR INTERROGATIONS BY CYPOL.

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